CLAIMS

1. An interactive tool for performing impact simulation and analysis, said tool comprising:

means for selecting one or more triggers from a set of at least one predefined trigger;

means for specifying parameters for each of said selected one or more triggers;

means for performing impact simulation and analysis using said selected one or more triggers and said specified parameters;

means for presenting results from said performed impact analysis; and

means for adding new triggers.

2. The tool of Claim 1, wherein said tool is Web enabled.

3. The tool of Claim 1, wherein said new triggers are first reviewed and approved by an administrator before being added.

4. The tool of Claim 1, wherein said new triggers are based on said results.

5. An apparatus for performing impact analysis, said apparatus comprising:

a data warehouse for storing current environment information;

model defined rules and triggers used for processing data from said data warehouse;

a display means for a user to set and reset criteria coupled to said model defined rules and triggers;

an interactive transformation engine for performing impact analysis using any or all of said data from said data warehouse, said model defined rules and triggers, and said user defined criteria; and

means for providing output from said performed impact analysis on said interactive transformation engine.

6.   The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said current environment information comprises transactional information.

7.   The apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising at least one system of record for having stored information on existing transactions and related infrastructure, said at least one system of record providing said stored information to said data warehouse.

8.   The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said model defined rules and triggers comprise three fundamental dominant groups: categorization of groups of data; external evaluation parameters; and an iteration matrix.

9.   The apparatus of Claim 8, wherein said external evaluation parameters are applied to said categorization of groups.

10.   The apparatus of Claim 8, wherein said iteration matrix has trigger set up capability by indicating types of behavior with which said trigger interacts and how said trigger interact with other triggers.

11. The apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising means for performing impact analysis iteratively based on any of:

results of a first cycle of said impact analysis;

5 added new triggers; and

reorganization of existing triggers.

12. The apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising a knowledge management subsystem, whereby said apparatus gains knowledge with each trigger

10 incorporated into said model defined rules and triggers.

13. A process for performing impact analysis, said process comprising the steps of:

providing a data warehouse for storing current environment information;

15 providing model defined rules and triggers used for processing data from said data warehouse;

providing a display means for a user to set and reset criteria coupled to said model defined rules and triggers;

providing an interactive transformation engine for performing impact analysis

20 using any or all of said data from said data warehouse, said model defined rules and triggers, and said user defined criteria; and

providing output from said performed impact analysis on said interactive transformation engine.

14. The process of Claim 13, wherein said current environment information comprises transaction information.

15. The process of Claim 13, further comprising the step of providing at least one
5   system of record for having stored information on existing transactions and related infrastructure, said at least one system of record providing said stored information to said data warehouse.

16. The process of Claim 13, wherein said model defined rules and triggers
10   comprise three fundamental dominant groups: categorization of groups of data; external evaluation parameters; and an iteration matrix.

17. The process of Claim 16, wherein said external evaluation parameters are applied to said categorization of groups.
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18. The process of Claim 16, wherein said iteration matrix has trigger set up capability by indicating types of behavior with which said trigger interacts and how said trigger interact with other triggers.

20   19. The process of Claim 13, further comprising the step of performing impact analysis iteratively based on any of:

          results of a first cycle of said impact analysis;

          added new triggers; and

          reorganization of existing triggers.

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20. The process of Claim 13, further comprising the step of providing a knowledge management subsystem, whereby knowledge is gained with each trigger incorporated into said model defined rules and triggers.

5 21. An apparatus for performing impact analysis for an application user and for an application administrator, said apparatus comprising:

 a trigger impact module; and

 an actual data view module.

10 22. The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein said trigger impact module provides means for assessing the impact of a trigger on a user defined data subset in accordance with user defined assumptions and parameters.

23. The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising a model database component, 15 comprising a trigger table, said trigger table comprising active and pending triggers.

24. The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein said triggers have attributes, said attributes comprising any of: a name, description, service codes, industry codes, product element codes, priority, and segments to which said trigger is mapped.

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25. The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein said actual data view module provides means for retrieving actual transaction data from said model database component by means of a query comprising user provided parameters, and wherein said actual data view module provides means for displaying a result of said query.

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26.   A process for performing impact analysis for an application user and for an application administrator, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a trigger impact module; and

providing an actual data view module.

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27.   The process of Claim 26, wherein said trigger impact module provides means for assessing the impact of a trigger on a user defined data subset in accordance with user defined assumptions and parameters.

10   28.   The process of Claim 26, further comprising the step of providing a model database component, comprising a trigger table, said trigger table comprising active and pending triggers.

29.   The process of Claim 27, wherein said triggers have attributes, said attributes

15   comprising any of: a name, description, service codes, industry codes, product element codes, priority, and segments to which said trigger is mapped.

30.   The process of Claim 28, wherein said actual data view module provides means for retrieving actual transaction data from said model database component by

20   means of a query comprising user provided parameters, and wherein said actual data view module provides means for displaying a result of said query.